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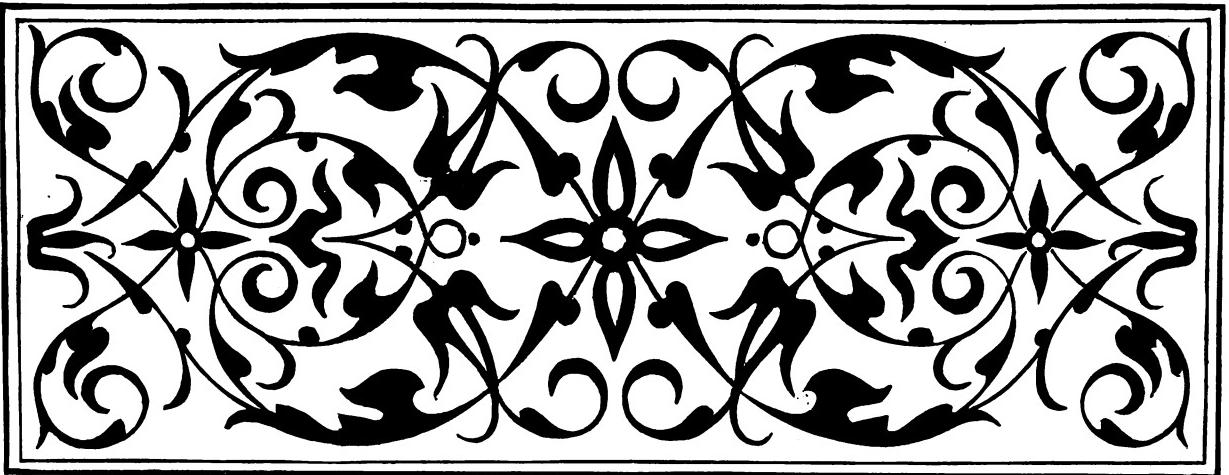
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B I B L I O G R A P H Y.

ART AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA. *First Annual Report of the Executive Committee, with accompanying Papers.* 1879-80. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Institute, Boston, May 15, 1880. Cambridge: John Wilson & Son. 1880. 163 pp. Illustr. 8vo.



HIS beautiful and carefully illustrated volume of 163 pages is the first fruits of the work of a society which gives fair promise, if properly supported by the public, of accomplishing at least two most important results. The first is the investigation and illustration of the fast disappearing traces of the primitive inhabitants of this continent, a field of labor not merely interesting to the professed antiquary, but one which appeals directly to the sympathies of all students of history. In this direction, the paper by the Hon. Lewis H. Morgan, the most competent authority in this country on pre-historic subjects, upon *The System of House-building practised by the Aboriginal Races of America, and on the Inferences to be drawn from it in regard to their Social Condition and Mode of Living*, is a very valuable contribution to knowledge. It will tend to clear up the preposterous ideas prevalent in regard to the high degree of civilization attained by the Aztec race at the time of the discovery of this country, founded upon the exaggerated statements of the old Spanish chroniclers, and confirmed by the misconceptions of the late Mr. John L. Stephens as to the character of the ruins visited by him in Central America. Such views have been hitherto the opprobrium of archæology in the United States; and it is to the further elucidation of this interesting subject that the future researches of the Institute are to be directed. We sincerely trust that a generous response may be made by the lovers of antiquity to the appeal put forth by the society for the means necessary to pursue these and other similar investigations. A preliminary expedition is to be sent out at once to study the social organization, usages, and customs of the Pueblo Indians of Arizona and New Mexico, as

well as their peculiar architecture and antiquities. They are believed to be the direct descendants of the inhabitants of the country at the time of the Spanish conquest, and it is hoped that in this way much light may be shed upon the pre-Columbian history of America. This work has been already too long delayed, since modern civilization, with its railroads, is making rapid strides towards this last fastness of ancient tradition.

But art-students, as such, will probably be most interested in the endeavors already made, and to be made, by the society to add to our knowledge of classical antiquities, and especially of early Greek architecture. The preliminary reconnaissance (if we may be allowed to call it so) of the society's agent, Mr. Clarke, in his adventurous voyage down the Danube, through the famous Iron Gate, and, via the Euxine, the Thracian Bosphorus, and the Hellespont, into the North Ægean, is replete with interest and information, and gives earnest of the valuable work that we trust may be achieved by him in the coming season. Especially fresh and interesting is the description of the island of Samothrake, the seat of the mysterious worship of the dread Cabiri, and of the present condition of the ruins of the city of Assos, situated not far from the site of ancient Troy. Here it is that we hope the society will conclude to commence its work of systematic exploration upon "classic ground." Colonel Leake thinks that the ruins of Assos give perhaps the most perfect idea of a Greek city that anywhere exists. Here too is an important problem to be solved in determining, if possible, the date of construction of the archaic Doric temple, now entirely overthrown, which gave celebrity to the city, and in establishing conclusively the plan upon which it was built. The sculptured reliefs of its architrave and metopes, brought to France by Texier in 1837, are among the most valuable relics of early Greek art now preserved in the Louvre. From the report of Mr. Clarke we have good grounds for believing that excavations upon this spot would yield most important results. He says: "Assos is one of the very few sites of a flourishing city of Greek antiquity where the earth has not been in the least overturned in the search

for relics, . . . and all that has been brought from it has been taken from the surface." Additional remains of the sculptured decorations of the temple may well be hoped for, while the many fragments of ancient painted vases which lie strewn about warrant the probability of finding in the graves valuable works of Greek keramic art. There are also numerous examples of ancient sarcophagi to be seen here, though they do not appear to be made of the "flesh-consuming" stone, peculiar to Assos, which has given the name to this description of tomb. If, then, the society will begin its explorations here, we think that works of antiquity can surely be found, and we believe it to be perfectly feasible to obtain from the Turkish government a firman, not only to dig, but to carry off what may be discovered. Under these circumstances may we not venture to hope that the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, as well as the Metropolitan Museum of New York, may soon be enriched with some valuable relics of genuine Greek art?

The remaining work executed under the auspices of the Institute during the past year was the investigation by Mr. Stillman of a supposed unknown Etruscan city upon Monte Leone, in the province of Grosseto, in the Tuscan Maremma. This also has resulted in a real contribution to knowledge, and is of itself sufficient to signalize the *début* of the youngest of the archæological sisterhood. Although a new city has not been discovered, yet some unique defensive works upon a grand scale have been brought to light, which are very clearly shown by the accompanying map. A double line of wall, separated by a space varying in width up to half a mile, runs for a distance of about eight miles across the neck of what was once a peninsula inclosed between the river Ombrone on the south and the Brune on the north, on which Monte Leone is situated. The plain on which the city of Grosseto now stands is a recent alluvial deposit of these two rivers, and the sea once washed the western slope of the whole mountain range. The walls run through almost impenetrable thickets, so that it was impossible to follow their course throughout their entire length. In one portion, where the original width was preserved, it measured about ten feet, and the height was fully as much, or even more. The stones of which the wall was built were of all sizes, the largest weighing as much as two tons, and they were laid in no regular order. We think this investigation tends to shed some light upon the obscure and vexed question of the origin of the Etruscans. After all the efforts of recent scholarship this problem does not seem to have received any better solution than the one given by the Romans, that they were a colony of Lydians, coming by sea and landing on the coast of Tuscany. May not this site at the mouth of the river Umbro mark the spot of the original disembarkation of the adventurous settlers, and be the remains of their first system of defence against the neighboring aborigines? The whole work is much ruder in style, and in a more ruined condition than are the walls of the Etruscan city of Rusellæ, which stands between it and the ancient sea line, and to which it serves as a kind of outwork. May it not have been allowed to fall into decay after Rusellæ and the other important cities of the Etruscan League had been built, with solid and well-constructed walls, and after the Etruscan power had become so firmly established as no longer to require such a primitive system of fortification? Mr. Stillman thinks it

was the work of a colony of the ancient Umbri; but archæologists generally, we believe, hold the opinion that the Umbri were an early Italian race, who penetrated into the peninsula from the north, coming by land from Western Asia. We await with some impatience the conclusions that European scholars may draw in regard to this Transatlantic contribution to their special studies, and in the mean time we cordially recommend the new society and its labors to the favorable consideration of our scholars and art-lovers.

HENRY W. HAYNES.

ESSAYS ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY. By CHARLES THOMAS NEWTON, C. B., PH. D., D. C. L., LL. D., Keeper of Greek and Roman Antiquities at the British Museum; Corresponding Member of the French Institute; and Hon. Fellow of Worcester College, Oxford. London: Macmillan & Co. 1880. 472 pp. 8vo.

N this volume, the learned and accomplished keeper of the most precious collection of Greek and Roman antiquities in the world has brought together eleven essays of various dates, ranging over a period of thirty years. As he has revised the earlier in the light of modern archæology, they equal the later in freshness and interest, and together form an almost complete history of the discoveries made during a period which has been distinguished more than any other for the richness and variety of its contributions to our knowledge of the past. When we look back to the time before excavations had been made at Halikarnassos, Ephesos, Mykenai, Cyprus, Hissarlik, Olympia, Panti-kapaion, Knidos, Priene, Branchidai, etc., and compare it with the present, which they have enriched with so many marbles, gems, coins, gold ornaments, and inscriptions, we feel how great a gain has been made; or if we contrast the position of modern archæologists with that of the illustrious Winckelmann, for example, whose attainments, considering his scant means of knowledge, seem little short of miraculous, we feel how inestimable are the opportunities for study and comparison now enjoyed.

These Essays furnish the strongest evidence of their value to one whose life is devoted to the study of the past, and as we find that in them hardly any of the still vexed questions relating to antique art and archæology have been passed over, their collective value is very great to the student, who, whether he finds reason to alter his opinions or not from what Mr. Newton has to say, will gain greatly by becoming acquainted with those of one of the most competent authorities of the day.

On opening the book we turned with eager interest to the sixth Essay, upon Dr. Schliemann's discoveries at Mykenai, being anxious to know whether Mr. Newton regarded the objects found in the tombs of the Akropolis as pre-Homeric, or, like the distinguished Russian archæologist, Stephani, was inclined to consider them to be the work of barbarians of the third and fourth centuries of the Christian era. To this question we found no undecided answer upon the 292d page, in the following words: "We therefore (for reasons previously given) do not hesitate to state our opinion that, viewed in relation to the descriptions in Homer, the art of Mycenæ seems of a pre-Homeric period; viewed again in relation to the best extant works of the Græco-Phœnician period (when the slow and painful advance of Greek art from its first rude